

What Is Claimed Is:

1. An image processor provided with a function for recognizing a specific image in input image data, comprising:

a determination unit that determines whether a raster image exists in the image data or not and outputs the raster image if the raster image exists; and

a recognition unit that recognizes the specific image in the raster image output from the determination unit.

2. An image processor provided with a function for recognizing a specific image in input image data, comprising:

a recognition unit that recognizes the specific image; and

a determination unit that determines whether the image data includes a predetermined characteristic or not and commands the recognition unit to recognize the specific image if the predetermined characteristic is included.

3. An image processor according to Claim 2, wherein:

the determination unit determines whether the raster image in the image data has the predetermined characteristic or not.

4. An image processor according to Claim 3, wherein:

the determination unit determines whether plural raster images are continuous or not if the plural raster images exist in the image data and determines whether or not the raster images determined as being continuous have the predetermined characteristic as one raster image.

5. An image processor according to Claim 3, wherein:

the determination unit uses the size of an output raster image as the predetermined characteristic for making the determination.

6. An image processor according to Claim 3, wherein:

the determination unit uses the resolution of a raster image as the predetermined characteristic for making the determination.

7. An image processor according to Claim 3, wherein:

the determination unit uses the number of colors included in a raster image as the predetermined characteristic for making the determination.

8. An image processor according to Claim 3, wherein:

the determination unit uses a compression format of a raster image as the predetermined characteristic for making the determination.

9. An image processor provided with a function for recognizing a specific image in input image data, comprising:

a recognition unit that recognizes the specific image; and

a determination unit that commands the recognition unit to execute recognition processing at a lower resolution than the resolution of output, determines the result and commands the recognition unit to execute recognition processing at a higher resolution if the possibility of including the specific image in the image data is higher than a predetermined level.

10. An image processor according to Claim 1, further comprising:

an output image data generation unit that generates output image data based upon the image data and outputs it, wherein:

the output image data generation unit temporarily stops the generation or the output of the output image data if the determination unit determines that recognition processing by the recognition unit is required.

11. An image processor according to Claim 1, further comprising:

an output image data generation unit that generates output image data based upon the image data and outputs it, wherein:

the output image data generation unit temporarily stops the generation or the output of the output image data if the determination unit determines that the possibility of including a specific image in the image data is higher than a predetermined level as a result of recognition processing by the recognition unit.

12. An image processor according to Claim 1, further comprising:
an output image data generation unit that generates output image data per predetermined unit based upon the image data and outputs it, wherein:

the determination unit executes processing for making determination on image data per predetermined unit or in a predetermined unit being processed; and

the output image data generation unit changes the quantity of the output image data if the determination unit determines, as a result of recognition processing by the recognition unit, that the possibility of including the specific image in the image data is higher than a predetermined level.

13. An image processor according to Claim 10, wherein:
the output image data generation unit stops the generation or the output of the output image data if the recognition unit recognizes the existence of the specific image.

14. An image processor according to Claim 10, wherein:
the output image data generation unit outputs fixed data as the output image data if the recognition unit recognizes the existence of the specific image.

15. An image processor according to Claim 10, wherein:
the output image data generation unit outputs a character string

telling that the existence of the specific image is recognized as the output image data if the recognition unit recognizes the existence of the specific image.

16. An image processor according to Claim 1, further comprising:
an output image data generation unit that generates output image data based upon the image data and outputs it, wherein:

the output image data generation unit stops the generation or the output of the output image data if the recognition unit recognizes the existence of the specific image.

17. An image processor according to Claim 10, wherein:
the determination unit determines a mode for generating the output image data by the output image data generation unit and commands the recognition unit to execute recognition processing only if the mode is a predetermined mode.

18. An image processor according to Claim 1, wherein:
the determination unit executes determination processing in units of page.

19. An image processor provided with a function for recognizing a specific image in input image data, comprising:

a recognition unit that recognizes the specific image; and
a determination unit that determines a mode for outputting the image data, wherein:

the determination unit commands the recognition unit to execute recognition processing if the mode is a predetermined mode.

20. An image processor that generates output image data based upon input image data and outputs it to a device provided with a function for recognizing a specific image, comprising:

a determination unit that determines whether the input image data includes a predetermined characteristic or not; and

an output image data generation unit that generates output image data based upon the input image data and outputs it with added information that there is the possibility of including the specific image in the output image data if the determination unit determines that the input image data includes the predetermined characteristic.

21. An image processor provided with a function for recognizing a specific image in input image data, comprising:

a recognition unit that recognizes the specific image; and

a determination unit that determines whether or not information that there is the possibility of including the specific image in the image data exists, wherein:

the determination unit commands the recognition unit to execute recognition processing if the information exists.

22. A computer-readable storage medium that stores a program for commanding a computer for image processing to execute the functions of:

determining whether a raster image exists in input image data or not and outputting the raster image if the raster image exists; and

recognizing a specific image in the output raster image.